IN THE SPECIFICATION

On page 28, line 13, delete "15" and insert --19-- in its place.

On page 28, line 6, delete "attachment" and insert --center-- in its place.

On page 29, line 11, delete "W_{TB}" and insert "W_T" in its place.

On page 31, line 15, two occurrences, delete "1" and insert --51-- in its place.

On page 32, line 1, delete "51" and insert --75-- in its place.

On page 32, at lines 2, and 5, delete "1" and insert in its place--51-- .

On page 32, at lines 11 and 13, delete "1" and insert in its place --51--.

On the Abstract page, that is, on page 49, make the following changes:

At lines 13 and 14, delete "as measured side to side";

At line 16, delete "which includes" and insert in its place--with--;

At line 17, delete "as measured side to side";

At line 19, delete "both";

At line 21, delete "predetermined width";

At line 22, delete "predetermined width".

The marked up versions of each of the paragraphs with the above changes are on the following pages separately.

On page 28, line 13, delete "15" and insert --19-- in its place.

Figures 2 and 3 show front and end (right side) views, respectively of device 1 shown in Figure 1. Thus, device 1 includes top element 2. a vertical support member 4 with walls 9 and 11, and recesses such as recess 17, creating support columns, such as column ~~15~~ 19. Bottom element 6 has a substantially flat horizontal bottom surface 21 and tapered walls 13 and 15. Anchoring device 1 has a predetermined height so as to rest on a joist in such a way as to establish anchor top element 2 at a predetermined height from the joist for attachment of two adjacent boards thereto which have pre-cut slots corresponding thereto.

On page 28, line 6, delete "attachment" and insert --center-- in its place.

Top element 2 also includes an imaginary ~~attachment~~ center line 8 below which extends a vertical support member and a bottom element.

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On page 29, line 11, delete "W_{TB}" and insert "W_T" in its place.

Figure 4 shows a blown up end view of anchoring device 1 as shown in Figure 3, with identical parts identically numbered in part, and with width designations, as illustrated. Specifically, in Figure 4, top element 2 has a width ~~W_{TB}~~ $\underline{W_T}$, as measured from side to side at its maximum width. Vertical support member 4 has width W_M, as measured from side to side at its maximum width. Likewise, bottom element 6 has a width W_B, as measured from side to side at its maximum width. It is important to note that W_T, the first predetermined width, being the width of top element 2, is greater than both W_M, the predetermined width of vertical support member 4, as well as W_B, the predetermined width, being a third predetermined width of bottom element 6. In other words, the width of the top element is greater than both the width of the vertical support member and the width of the bottom element. Moreover, the width of bottom element 6, W_B, while it is less than width W_T of top element 2, it is also greater than the width of vertical support member 4, W_B. These critical relationships allow for a maximum support of adjoining slotted boards while minimizing the space between the boards to typical or conventional deck spacing.

On page 31, line 15, two occurrences, delete "1" and insert --51-- in its place.

On page 32, line 1, delete "51" and insert --75-- in its place.

On page 32, at lines 2, and 5, delete "1" and insert in its place--51-- .

Figure 7 shows present invention anchoring device ~~1~~ 51 in use. Anchoring device ~~1~~ 51 is inserted into pre-cut slot 55 of horizontal beam 45, shown in its end view of cut wood ~~51~~ 75. A staple, nail or screw is passed through anchoring device ~~1~~ 51 into joist beam 59. Large staples are preferred and simplest for attachment. This anchor attaches device ~~1~~ 51 to joist beam 59 and establishes the elevation of top element 2 so as to match with slot 55.

On page 32, at lines 11 and 13, delete "1" and insert in its place --51--.

Next beam 47 with its slot 57 in its end view cut wood 53 will be placed adjacent to anchoring device by being slid into position with the top element of anchoring device ~~1~~ 51 fitting into slot 57 and the bottom of beam 47 resting on joint 59. By this method, anchoring device ~~1~~ 51 attaches all three boards to one another as the top element aspects are typically tight-fitting. The bottom element also aids in placement and security by fitting under the edge of the beams as shown in the Figure. Thus, for example, decking boards may be attached without the need for nails or screws entering the beams themselves from the top.